

CITY REPORTS NEW INQUIRY ON AIR FIELD

A conference looking toward a more equitable arrangement in the operation of Torrance Municipal airport was held Wednesday noon between Torrance city officials and R. W. F. Schmidt, head of the airports division of the Civil Aeronautics Authority, western section.

The airport situation was ignored at Tuesday night's City Council meeting by Mayor J. Hugh Sherfy Jr., but it was reportedly discussed at length in a closed session of the councilmen Monday night.

Attending Wednesday's meeting with the CAA official were Councilmen Nick Dale and George C. Powell, councilmen elected at the last election, Mayor Sherfy and George Stevens, city engineer. The group met informally in Hermosa Beach.

It was learned that certain members of the council now are uncertain whether the city actually has the power, now that Torrance is a charter city, to lease the airport proper to a private operator. The CAA official, Stevens said, believes they may have, however.

Stevens also disclosed that the Cummings Baldwin Construction Company has inquired about leasing portions of the field, which may result in the city obtaining additional revenue.

Last fiscal year the city realized less than \$1000 on the \$2,000,000 investment in the airport, which represents non-taxable land taken off the public tax rolls.

Council Orders Walteria Sewer Plans Prepared

City Council Tuesday night authorized the city engineer to prepare plans and specifications for the installation of sanitary sewers in the Walteria district.

A public hearing on the proposed project will be held after the plans are ready, officials said.

The Health Department had recommended the installation of sewers in the Walteria Sanitary Sewer District as the result of a re-survey of the area.

Roy Gilbert, Health officer, said that the results of the re-survey indicated that 34.2 percent of the people contacted have had trouble with their cesspool sewage disposal system or are using caution in the amount of waste water they are discharging into their present systems.

"The nature of this trouble is inherent with the use of cesspools in areas such as this where the soil conditions do not provide good leaching action, namely: filling up and backing into house plumbing fixtures, overflowing on the surface of the ground, the necessity for frequent pumping and cleaning out and the construction of new cesspools," said the Health Department recommendation.

Maps of Four Tracts Okayed

Approval of four new tract maps has been given by the Torrance City Council, on recommendation of the city planning commission.

Largest of the four is Tract 15397, a portion of Lot B in the Redondo Los Palos Verdes, consisting of 419 residential lots. The final map for Seaside Ranchos No. 2 was approved.

Two revised maps also were approved. One was for Tract 15139, east of Madison street and south of Pacific Coast Highway. The other was Tract 11732, at the northwest corner of Crenshaw boulevard and 170th street, but was subject to condition that the lots be enlarged to 6000 square feet in area.

Park Lighting Given Boost

In preparation for the coming American Legion Semi-Pro Baseball Tournament and as a general improvement item, a \$2,000-odd boost has been given to the illumination at Torrance City Park, according to Dale Riley, superintendent of recreation.

City's Lot Size Law Under Attack

VALIDITY IS CHALLENGED BY REALTORS

Two matters pertaining to city lots and land use in the city of Torrance came before the City Council Tuesday night, both being matters of law which were referred to City Attorney C. Douglass Smith for opinions.

The Torrance-Lomita Realty Board challenged the validity of the city ordinance requiring a minimum lot size of 6,000 square feet, stating it was "illegal, and at variance with the State law and provisions of the charter."

Scarcity of desirable residential land makes it advisable to conserve what areas are available for subdividing, the Board's communication stated, adding that the majority of cities provide a 5,000-square-foot minimum.

The letter, signed by W. E. Bowen, was referred to the city attorney "for a written opinion on all points," on motion of Councilman George Powell.

Later, the Council adopted Resolution 1922, ordering City Attorney Smith to institute a study to determine whether there had been violations of Ordinance 315, the city's Land Use Ordinance, and "to proceed against any firm, corporation or individual" found violating it and committing any nuisance on land within the city limits.



BECOMES TEACHER — Miss Helen Lockwood, director of YWCA activities in Torrance, who is resigning Aug. 1 to become a teacher in the local high school.

Local YWCA Director on School Staff

Miss Helen Lockwood, director of YWCA activities in Torrance, is resigning Aug. 1 to become a teacher of English in Torrance High School, it was announced today.

Miss Lockwood, who will be listed in the next edition of "Who's Who in Southern California," has been secretary of the Torrance Ministerial Union, a member of the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee and a member of the Association for the Study of Community Organization (Los Angeles chapter).

She holds a Master of Arts degree from Columbia University and received her A. B. degree from Emmita College, majoring in English and French. In addition she has studied at Penn State, Union Theological Seminary, Juilliard School of Music, Rhode Island State College and Dale Carnegie School in Public Speaking.

Miss Lockwood was a counselor at Stephens College, Columbia, Mo. in 1941-42; director of the student union of Rhode Island State College.

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President of Lever Bros. in California

Formal announcement of the new Lever Brothers soap plant which will serve the company's western marketing outlets was being awaited in Torrance this week, following the arrival of President Charles Luckman in Los Angeles on Sunday.

Luckman made official announcement that Lever engineers have been "inspecting possible manufacturing sites," but declined to state as yet exactly where the plant would be located. It was "only logical," he said, that his huge corporation would establish a western production branch.

The official was vacationing this week at his Malibu Mountain ranch with his family. They are traveling in his private Lockheed Lodestar transport and will remain another week.

Workman Hurt Fatally in Fall From Building

Glyn E. Ertl, 34, was fatally injured last Thursday when he fell from the roof of a building at the National Supply Company's plant on Carson street.

Ertl was employed as a rigger at the local plant and had worked here since April, 1946. He came to Torrance from the company's eastern plant at Ambridge, Pa., where he had been employed since 1934 in the forgings shop.

Born in St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 14, 1914, Ertl is survived by his widow, Mrs. Lillian Ertl, and two children, Amelia, 13, and Glyn, Jr., 12. The family home is at 22210 Denker avenue. His body was returned last Friday to Esther, Mo., for funeral services to be held there this week. He was a member of the Moose Lodge.

School Board Makes Award on Low Bids

Bids for new equipment for Torrance high school have been accepted from five low bidders and awards have been made by action of the board of education.

Helmets for the football team, overlooked in the original call for bids for athletic equipment, will be purchased at a cost of \$330 from Clark Brothers.

Machine tools to equip the shop at the high school will be purchased from three separate concerns at a cost of \$25,645.

Primer typewriters will be purchased from the Remington Rand Company for an outlay of \$599.



HEADS KIWANIS — J. Belmont Mosser, new president of Kiwanis International, and prominent industrialist.

Local Kiwanis Club Expects High Official

Officers of the Kiwanis Club of Torrance learned yesterday that J. Belmont Mosser, prominent Pennsylvania industrialist and recently elected president of Kiwanis International, will speak here soon.

Dave Colville, president of the club, said that following his election at Los Angeles the new Kiwanis chief executive had indicated he would launch his speaking itinerary in late summer. This schedule undoubtedly will carry him into a majority of the 29 Kiwanis districts throughout the United States and Canada, Colville added.

Long active in eastern industrial circles, Mosser is vice president and general sales manager of the Speer Carbon Company and vice president of the International Graphite and Electrode Corp., both at St. Marys, Pa., where he maintains his home.

In a press conference a few days ago, Mosser said that during his administration he would advocate a program of adult education based primarily on the principle that freedom is "everybody's business." He declared the public must become aware of the dangers that threaten liberty.

LOCAL POLICE RUSH TO AID OF SCALDED YOUTH

A boy's wailing voice that cried pitifully into the telephone: "Police, please, please come quick, I'm burned. It hurts," sent Police Captain Ernie Ashton and Patrolman Robert Wright to the home of 10-year-old Frank Roth at 1547 West 214th street at 3:50 p.m. Tuesday afternoon.

They found the boy had been scalded from the chest down when a corked beer can exploded and showered the youngster with steam.

Frank and a group of boys had been playing with a bonfire in the back yard and were "cooking" a beer can of water. They were attempting to keep the cork from popping out when the pressure within the can became too great and the stopper blew out, police said.

Stevens Now 'Officially' City Engineer

Upon advice of City Attorney C. Douglass Smith, the City Council Tuesday night officially appointed George W. Stevens as city engineer, on a temporary basis, on motion of Councilman George Powell.

Stevens will receive the same salary and will perform certain administrative work for the council, but his title of "city administrator" is discontinued, effective as of Aug. 1, by Powell's motion.

Reason for the change in title was because the legality of his office was questioned, inasmuch as it is not specifically provided for in the city's charter.

The city charter provides for a city manager, but this office cannot be filled until the charter amendment authorizing a city manager is approved by the Legislature at the opening of its next session.

When the amendment becomes effective, it is the council's intention to give Stevens the title of city manager.

Two Offices Are Vacated

Selection of a new chairman of the Torrance city planning commission will be made before the commission's next meeting, it was indicated yesterday following the resignation of Thomas F. McGuire, who is to become city manager of Montebello on August 1.

The council accepted McGuire's resignation "with regret" and thanked him for his services.

McGuire's resignation also vacated the post of chairman of the city's Advisory Airport Committee, which some time ago inquired into the status of the municipal field.

PLAY FUNDS TAKEN

Gaining entrance through an open window, thieves took \$250 from the Torrance Recreation Center, 1413 Cravens avenue, during the early morning hours last Sunday.

Although out of their territory, Torrance police answered the call and rushed the youth to the Torrance Medical Center for aid, where he received treatment for second-degree burns on the chest, abdomen and right arm. He sustained first degree burns on his left arm.

Young Roth's parents were working at the time of the accident, police records showed.



MACHINE MAID . . . Beautiful Ann Kerchner does a bit of mechanical work to get in the proper spirits for the

huge Torrance Factory Frolic and Community Fair which will take over the town Sept. 15 to 19. (Herald photo.)

Going, Going, Concession Space For Factory Frolic Nearly Gone

Approximately a dozen of the concession booths reserved for local organizations at the big Factory Frolic and Community Fair Sept. 15 to 19 have been sold, it was announced today by Chairman Jim Lynch.

The first block of concessions has been taken by the local service clubs, two of the churches, the Woman's club and the Junior Woman's Club and the Torrance Area Youth Band.

The 20-30 Club has taken two concessions while the Lions, Rotary and Kiwanis have each taken one, covering penny-pitching, ham and bacon, hot dogs and ice cream.

The Catholic Church will operate a Country Store and the Episcopal Church will serve hot dogs and food. The two women's clubs will have

a bingo concession and a cigarette shooting gallery. Sale of exhibit space also is speeding up, two booths having been contracted for by Semmes and Yoder subdividers of Pacific Hills in the southern tip of Torrance. Local business firms and industrial plants will occupy a total of 75 of the booths.

All of these local attractions will be in addition to non-conflicting concessions operated by the amusement corporation which operates Community Fairs, and which will feature carnival rides and other attractions.

The city will don gala attire for the event, which will be widely advertised and will attract thousands of fun-seekers to the huge two-block long midway daily.

Alaska Visitor Says Migrants Now Appear to Be Headed for Northwest

Alaskans believe that much of the nation's migrant population is traveling north this summer rather than to California, according to observations made by Secretary Blaine Walker of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, home this week from a six week trip to the land of the midnight sun.

The hotel situation there is critical, and while accommodations are booked in advance it doesn't mean your hotel will accommodate you promptly when you get there, as he and Mrs. Walker learned. Many tourists, Walker said, had to sleep in tents.

Other Alaska observations: Fishing and hunting excellent on Kenai Peninsula, but both Canada and the Yukon have jet-type mosquitos, operating on blood. Used cars are cheaper in Fairbanks than in the United States. House trailers are cheap because migrants bring them in on the Alcan Highway, won't attempt the trip back with them and many need the money.

Canadian authorities at Edmonton are attempting to discourage migrants with insuffi-

cient funds from embarking on the Alcan trip. Peak travel on the Alcan is said to be 25 cars a day. Gasoline is from 30 to 72 cents a gallon.

Food is plentiful, and about 50 per cent higher than here. All meat is frozen, and steaks are cut with a band saw. One town of 1400 has 24 liquor establishments.

There is bus transportation throughout the territory, each driver being his own mechanic and carries a complete set of tools. All Alaskan communications are in charge of the U.S. Army Signal Corps. Army activity is evident, but Alaskans are not outwardly worried about the prospect of war with Russia.

PLANT FAVORS LOCAL RESIDENTS IN HIRING

Backing up their theory that local residents make excellent employees, H. W. Creger, plant manager of American-Standard Radiator Co., announced yesterday that of the company's 254 workers 112 live in the city of Torrance.

Of the remaining 142 employees 118 live within five miles of the plant at Crenshaw boulevard and 203rd street while only 24 (or less than 10 percent) live outside the immediate area, Creger pointed out.

The manager announced also that within the next six months the plant expects to hire an additional 250 people

and will attempt, where possible, to follow the practice of hiring local persons.

Stan Briggs, personnel director, revealed that the office is taking applications from men of all ages to fill the positions.

DOMINGUEZ DUMP

Long Beach firemen waged a three-hour fight early Tuesday to conquer a fire in the huge Dominguez public dump at Figueroa street and Moneta avenue.

Warning to overtime auto parkers was given this week when Police Chief John Stroh announced that the newly-acquired three-wheel motorcycle would start checking autos parked in the downtown and industrial area next Monday afternoon.

Overtime Auto Parking Check Begins Monday

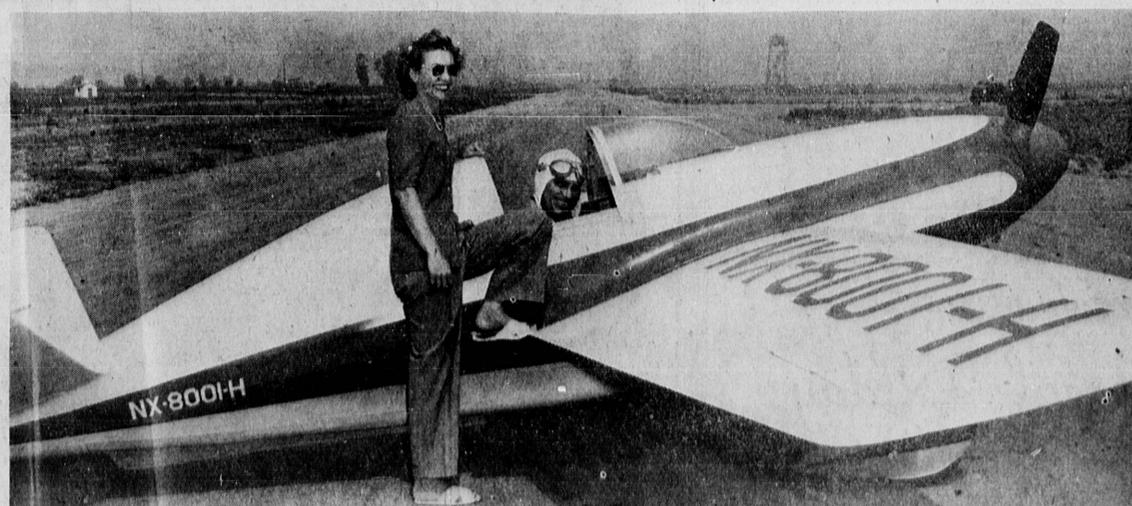
Officer M. H. Porter will be assigned to the new equipment, according to Chief Stroh.

The new Harley-Davidson motor was delivered to the police department earlier this week at a cost of \$1019.

TRAGEDY

Builder Art Chester shows Mary Gardner some of the finer points of this Torrance-built racing plane the day before it crashed at Rosemead killing Pilot Mike Argandar, 31, of Highland Park. The small plane, which

took off from the local airport before crashing Sunday, had only a dozen hours in the air, cost about \$10,000, and was a total loss. It was the second small racing plane which Chester, nationally-famous pilot, had built at his Tor-



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rance Municipal Airport factory. (Photo by Arthur Wiley.)